

# THE MEDIUM

VOLUME 26 ISSUE 3

THE VOICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO AT MISSISSAUGA

SEPTEMBER 13, 1999

## Remember the EAP promise?

EAP remnants uncertain about payout

BY MARK BUDGELL

ECSU's vice-president, Andy Baghaei, and services director, Rose Oliveira, are wavering on their election promise to give away half their salary.

The two councilors were members of last year's eight member Erindale Action Party (EAP), a group that promised to cut their salaries by 50 per cent. EAP also said in their platform that they would constitutionally change ECSU's salary structure so that every councillor would take a 50 per cent salary cut.

The EAP said that the savings would be put toward student scholarships.

ECSU president, Laurie Schirripa, said that the EAP did realize how much work was involved when they promised to donate half their wages, but added "I'm going to remind them that they made the promise and encourage them to keep it."

Last year, Baghaei said that members of the EAP would donate 50 per cent of their salaries to the fund.

This year, Baghaei is unsure exactly how much he and Oliveira will donate. "We have to see exactly how the year goes but the donation could be somewhere around half of our salaries," he said.

The two are still deciding whether to make a single lump sum payment or a series of smaller payments. Baghaei said that he expects to make some sort of a payment in February.

Both Oliveira and Baghaei said they doubt that the rest of the council will donate to the scholarship fund.

"This was something that eight people decided. It wasn't something that [ECSU council] had decided to do, so I can't force them to do something like that," said Oliveira.

Schirripa said that changing the constitution to force every member of ECSU to give away half their wages

would make holding a position on the council something that only the rich could do.

"I think it is a horrible idea," said Schirripa. "If you change the constitution

you decrease the number of people who run for ECSU. You'll be limiting the type of people who could hold office to the rich," said Schirripa.

She added that if she donated her wages, she would have to find a part-time job to help her pay all her bills. According to Schirripa, this would make it impossible for her to fulfill her duties as ECSU president.

Baghaei said that he will still try to pass the motion to change ECSU's constitution, but he doubts the council will approve it.

"Yeah, I certainly will try," said Baghaei, "but you need a majority vote and I don't think that will happen."

"We have to see exactly how the year goes but the donation could be somewhere around half of our salaries."  
—Andy Baghaei

## Blind Duck homeless



photo/Avril Long

## First pub in centre no-go

BY MARK BUDGELL

The first pub night of the school year, an important revenue generator for ECSU, is in jeopardy.

The Blind Duck pub's new home in the Student Centre is still under construction, although it was scheduled for completion by August 1.

ECSU president Laurie Schirripa said the pub won't be ready in time, and is upset that it is so far behind schedule.

"Maybe I'm naïve," said Schirripa, "but if someone tells me the pub is

going to be ready by August 1, I tend to believe them.

Currently, the pub space in the centre is littered with partially assembled furniture, the floor and bar are unfinished, and dance lights and deejay equipment, though ordered, have not arrived.

Randy Poland, project manager for the Student Centre, said that the pub will be completed in time.

"We expect to be ready by first pub," said Poland. He said that only final touches and systems checks will be unfinished by Monday, September 13.

Poland pointed out, however, it's not his decision to open the pub on Thursday. "The pub will open if Maxine Dawkins [the pub manger] is

comfortable. If it doesn't open by the 16, it will for the 23."

Dawkins said that it is unfortunate for students, but she doubts the pub will open for the 16. She also pointed out that the pub will lose revenue.

Schirripa said she expects a rebate on the pub's rent if it isn't ready.

"I would expect that if I can't have first pub they would have to give me a decrease in rent," said Schirripa, "because I wouldn't be able to make any revenue."

Poland said that ECSU won't lose revenue if the pub isn't opened by the 16.

"They will still have the first big pub by the next week and still make that big revenue," said Poland.

## ECSU retracts club suspension: no proof

Club president plans legal retaliation

BY MARK BUDGELL

ECSU may find themselves spending less time in classes this fall and more time in court after deciding to suspend the Christian Advance club from campus and sanctioning the club leader.

ECSU initially decided to suspend the club and terminate Bruce Worthington, leader of the club, as frosh leader late Wednesday night after Grace Subrata, clubs commissioner for ECSU, had a discussion with Worthington. During the discussion Worthington admitted to recruiting members from the campus and made clear his intention to continue doing so.

But Thursday evening the council members retracted their decision because they could not find

a definition for aggressive religious recruiting in their club guidelines. They also realized that every club must recruit.

Any complaints ECSU had received from students about the club have been informal.

Worthington said he will take legal action against the council, despite the retraction.

"I think it is a shame that members of our group are not allowed to participate and be involved in school activities because of what they believe," said Worthington. He said that he had promised Subrata that he would not approach frosh, but would only share his faith with them if they began the discussion.

Laurie Schirripa, ECSU's president who tabled the motion to suspend the club, initially thought the move was positive. "I don't think that he [Worthington] or the club were discriminated

"I think it is a shame that members of our group are not allowed to participate and be involved in school activities because of what they believe."  
—Bruce Worthington



Andy Baghaei and Rose Oliveira.

The two promised to donate half their salaries. Now Andy says "somewhere around" half their salaries, depending on how the year goes.

The Medium will keep track of the donation with the Big Guy/Oliviera Promise Fund.

ECSU continued on page 3

A festive journal  
Arts & Entertainment  
Page 8



Ball hockey's back  
Sports  
Page 10



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Advertising: 273-8200  
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Quote of the Week: "I think that is very one-dimensional of you." —transparent lyricist, Jewel, insults the worldly Richie Mehta, page 8.



# New Dean calls Erindale home Student mentors

Lettierie said he will miss the classroom

BY ROBERT PRICE

He first worked at Erindale as a tutor. Now he's the dean of humanities at UTM.

Michael Lettieri, professor of Italian studies, first stepped onto Erindale's woody campus in 1982 when Boy George, Principal Paul Fox, and lip sync nights at the Blind Duck Pub were popular. The Italian-born Lettieri tutored at Erindale until he completed his Ph.D at U of T in 1985, then began working as a professor. During his seventeen years of teaching Lettieri received the SAC-APUS award for excellence in teaching and a teaching award from the Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations.

A few months ago Lettieri stepped away from the front lines to become UTM's new dean of humanities.

"I will miss the classroom. Nothing is more important than

putting students first," said Lettieri from his new administrative office in the North Building.

"I made my decision [to take the post] based on my deep affection to the university, to UTM, to the division, to my department, to my students, and to my colleagues. I grew up in this place. I'm at home here.

"I believe passionately in the centrality of humanities in the University."

As dean, Lettieri said that he will try to fulfill the entries on his wish list. One of these wishes involves bringing professors and students closer together.

"I'd like to see more co-curricular activities. I'd like to extend the classroom learning outside the classroom." He said that the Italian department's dramatic presentations and the professor-led gallery trips that other department's take are the kinds of things he would like to see more of. "And why not concerts?" asked Lettieri.

"We need to create a laboratory of life in the classroom and outside the

classroom," he said.

Increasing the space for humanity studies at Erindale is another priority for Lettieri. The North Building, designated as a temporary building during the original planning of the College and home to humanities, is crowded and poorly lit. "Space is something that we need. We need classrooms that are pedagogically functional.

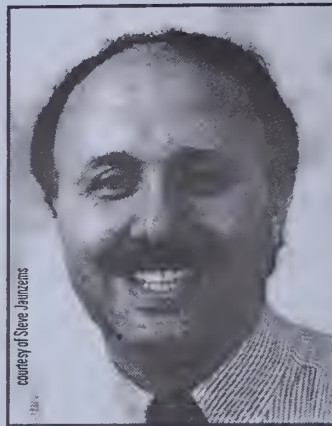
"In the 21-century, to have excellent students and excellent faculty, you will need to have excellent facilities too," said Lettieri.

Even though Lettieri, whose research centres primarily in the areas of Italian Renaissance literature and textual criticism plans to make some changes, he sees humanities at Erindale as a strong and dynamic division. "We were faced with cutbacks, nonetheless, we've done great things. UTM adapted to the change."

Lettieri said that for the immediate future, UTM humanities will respect tradition while Lettieri

"In the 21-century, to have excellent students and excellent faculty, you will need to have excellent facilities too."

—Michael Lettieri



Michael Lettieri, new dean of humanities.

builds upon the work of his predecessors.

"We have a unique environment that provides students with a first-class undergraduate experience. We have a first-rate curriculum, first-rate facilities, and extraordinary grounds."

As dean, Lettieri wants to keep his door open to students, faculty and staff. "I like to know everybody by their first names. Come on by. We'll have an espresso and talk."

mentors

BY MARK BUDGELL

Erindale students are volunteering en masse for Peel Region's In-School Mentoring Program.

The In-School Mentoring Program is a collaborative project by the Peel District School Board, Big Brothers of Peel and Big Sisters of Peel, that aims to improve children's self-esteem and benefit them academically and socially.

There are a total of eighty-four volunteers participating in the programme. Twenty-five of the volunteers are UTM students.

According to Karenne Lachapelle, a recent graduate from UTM who participates in the programme, it is rewarding "knowing that you are a very important friend, knowing that you are meaningful, and making someone happy."

Lachapelle has been mentoring a child named Robert for three years. She volunteered for the program after she read a brochure at Erindale and decided that she would like to contribute to the community.

"It turned out to be a wonderful

"Volunteers don't need to feel like they need a special skill to take part."  
—Lori Plati

thing to do," said Lachapelle.

Lori Plati, community relations coordinator for Big Brothers, said the program is popular with students because it only requires them to invest about an hour each week.

"It's only one hour a week, and it is a great fit for people," said Plati. "It's nice to be able to make a difference in that short a period of time."

Student volunteers are still needed. Each of the thirty-one schools participating in the program has about five children waiting for mentors.

Volunteers are matched with a child of similar interests, and the two meet with him or her at a public school. The volunteer takes part in activities of mutual interest with the child. They may play sports, talk, read, or paint.

"Volunteers don't need to feel like they need a special skill to take part," said Plati, "they are matched with children on a mutual interest basis."

Big Brothers of Peel will be advertising the program September 29 during Erindale's Community Day. Students will find them in the new Student Centre.

## ECSU'S NEW LOCATION!

COME AND VISIT US IN OUR NEW OFFICE

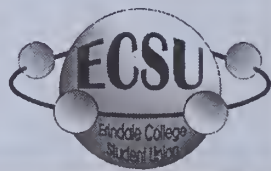
Rm 100 Student Centre (North Side)

# CLUBS

it's here WEEK

## SEPTEMBER 20-24

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT UTM'S 50+ CLUBS BY PICKING UP A COPY OF THE BIG BOOK OF CLUBS AT THE ECSU OFFICE.



WATCH OUT FOR THE GRAND OPENING OF THE BRAND NEW

# BLIND DUCK PUB



The Pub is under construction

SEPTEMBER 16 MYSTERY PUB NIGHT

ECSU will bus you to a secret location...

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## BLUE MONDAYS

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SPIRIT EVENTS

## HOT

Latin Nights

One Wednesday a month at the Blind Duck



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Sept. 13 – selling main floor of the South Building ONLY Sept. 14 – all other lockers NOT INCLUDING KANEFF

# LOCKER SALES

\* Please note the floor and a range of locker numbers; otherwise, you will be randomly assigned a locker.

The Medium needs news

writers, so throw on a suit and join the fun.



**ECSU** ERINDALE COLLEGE STUDENT UNION

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You can contact us at our e-mail address [ecsuc@credit.erin.utoronto.ca](mailto:ecsuc@credit.erin.utoronto.ca) or call us at 828-5249



# Lectures changed

Students find course times changed after registration

BY KERRY CATON

UTM administrators are working to create new procedure for course changes after several students discovered that the times of their courses overlapped.

The overlapping courses were the result of professors changing lecture times after registration.

Second year Arts student, Amanda Stephenson, signed up for four courses only to find that the times of three classes overlapped on her timetable. "I can understand a few minor changes, but three overlapping courses on one person's timetable is ridiculous. Now I have to totally rethink which courses I'm going to take this year."

ECSU's vice president of administration, Preena Chauhan, received a number of complaints from students who experienced timetable problems. "What we had concerns about was that courses were being dropped or changed after the registration period. ECSU had a concern that this should not be happening."

Robert Baker, the new dean of sciences, defends some of the possible causes for these changes. "Sometimes for perfectly good reasons courses have to be changed. Sometimes we don't even know who is going to be teaching a course. It's unfortunate, but we have to be flexible."

While this may be the case, Stephenson is still unhappy about the way the system is running at present. "Why is it taking until just before the school year to figure out who is going to

be teaching these course. Obviously it's disorganized."

Fourth year Arts student, Melanie Morgan, is now also trying to amend her new timetable. "I'm in my final year, what if this was a required course? Then I'd really be in trouble. I'm not expecting them to cater to us, but a little courtesy would be nice."

Based on the numerous problems caused this year, attempts to change the present system are already in place. One such change has been made by Dean Baker, who has informally agreed not to allow so many course changes in the future.

Mark Overton, Erindale's registrar, agrees that in the future, changes shouldn't be common. "If a course has to be changed it has to go through a formal procedure." This would make it a slightly more difficult for professors to change course times.

Melanie Morgan is happy about this prospect. "Professors change course times based on their schedule, but they don't realize exactly how much students strategically plan their schedule based on when these courses are offered."

Overton has yet to confirm this proposal with the dean of social science and dean of humanities. He is, however, attempting to implement it for next year.

Chauhan is confident that a more formal procedure will have greater success. "When the first day of registration begins, the courses will be locked. If an instructor needs to change times, he needs to get approval. This will alleviate any problems next year."

In addition to supporting these changes, ECSU will also set up an academic committee this year to deal with issues such as this one. As this has already been approved, it will begin as soon as an ECSU representative is chosen to sit on the committee.

# Frosh save ECSU

BY MARK BUDGELL

A good turnout at frosh week saved ECSU from losing money on a poorly planned event plagued by fewer sponsors than last year.

"The last day of registration allowed us to break even, I think," said Andy Baghaei, ECSU's vice-president of finance, who later added that the council may have cleared as much as \$5000.

According to Baghaei, last year's council made more than \$10,000 off the event.

The council didn't plan appropriately, said Laurie Schirripa, ECSU president.

"We didn't look ahead to see how much we were making and how much we could afford," said Schirripa. "We budgeted after the fact, after we had

planned the events."

Schirripa said the council also had difficulty securing corporate sponsors.

"In general, sponsorship has been decreasing the last couple of years. It's one of the things ECSU has to work on—we don't want to waste students' money."

"Labatt normally gives us money," said Schirripa. "This year they gave us nothing because they found out we were holding a dry frosh."

"We were worried in the beginning but in the end a lot of people signed up [for orientation week]," said Oliveira, ECSU's services director.

Oliveira had difficulty finding sponsors because she could only give companies two to three months notice, and

many of them had already donated money elsewhere.

"It happens every year," said Oliveira, "but the people who usually sponsor us weren't a problem."

ECSU received sponsorship from AMC Theatres, Panzerotto Pizza, The Limelight, ABSolute Fitness, health services, and SAC. Coca Cola donated rolls of stickers.

The council also included Labatt buckets, which were left over from last year's orientation week, in the frosh packs.

Corporate Sponsors make frosh week affordable for students. Currently, frosh pay \$85 dollars to participate in the event. Without sufficient sponsorship, students could see this number increase.

# ECSU to research club

Continued from front

against. We don't endorse recruiting bottom line," said Schirripa. She also pointed out that the intention of the ban was to protect students from being taken advantage of.

Later, Schirripa said the council was too hasty in making their decision.

"We agreed that it was a rash decision," said Schirripa, "and that we made the decision quickly during a stressful week."

Schirripa said, however, that

the council felt strongly that the group was a problem on campus and that the matter needed to be addressed.

"The impression of my council is that this is a major problem on campus," said Schirripa. "We are going to re-read our constitution and we are going to look at defining recruiting and aggressive recruiting in our constitution." Schirripa added that the major problem with limiting this club, and clubs like it, is that many of the complaints against

the club are informal and not documented. "Everyone on the council knows somebody who has been harassed by this group," said Schirripa.

Len Paris, UTM's new manager of police services, said Erindale police have received two complaints about the recruiting methods of religious groups on campus. Paris would not release the names of groups.

Worthington said that whatever the council decides, "our methods probably won't change."

# March against violence

Fifth annual Take Back the Night March on Thursday

BY MARK BUDGELL

The Sexual Assault and Rape Crisis Centre of Peel Region is holding its annual Take Back the Night March this Thursday.

The walk is a demonstration against violence against women and children. The event is part of an international demonstration. This is Mississauga's fifth annual march.

According to Ruth Cameron, public educator for the Peel Region Crisis Centre, the walk is an important symbol in the fight against violence.

"The march is a public statement that women should be free to walk

unescorted," said Cameron.

"The statement really comes home," she said. "We walk together to represent all the walks that we haven't taken. It's about all those late-night walks or jog or dashes to the store that we wouldn't do alone because it seemed unwise. It represents a lot of missed opportunities."

Cameron said that the event isn't angry or hostile.

"The mood is very supportive and tends to be, for lack of a better word, buoyant and empowering," she said.

The event was originally founded in 1974 in England and Germany, and has grown to become an international event. Last year over 200

Mississauga women participated in the march.

Men are welcome to attend the event and visit booths and attend the rally. The march, however, is strictly for women.

"If the men want to visit the booths and the rally, that's great and we welcome their support," said Cameron. "But the march is women only."

The march will begin at the YMCA at 325 Burnhamthorpe St. W., and continue on to Square One and down City Centre Dr. The march will end at the Mississauga City Hall.

Students who are interested can call Ruth Cameron at 273-3337.

The Medium  
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The Erindale orientation crew paints the streets of Toronto UTM green. Or is it blue? Silver? Whatever it is, we cleaned house at this year's orientation. As usual.



SAC ERINDALE

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Monday to Friday  
9:00 - 4:00 pm

828-5494

Office located in  
Room 131, Student Centre

# WE'VE MOVED

Come get an opt-out form at the new SAC Erindale office located in the Student Centre, room 131. Opt-out period is from September 1 to October 15, 1999.

You may also pick up forms from the following locations:

- Health Services
- Registrarial Services

Please note that all forms MUST be returned to the SAC Erindale office



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E-mail • medium@canada.com

Editor-in-chief • Robert Price

News Editor • Mark Budgell Arts &amp; Entertainment Editor • Richie Mehta

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## Rules for recruiting

Last week, ECSU embarrassed itself when it slapped the Christian Advance with a two year suspension for "aggressive recruiting," then had to overturn its decision the next day because they couldn't defend. It turns out that none of ECSU's club regulations define aggressive recruiting at all, or recruiting, and none of the councillors could prove that Christian Advance used aggressive recruiting tactics or harassed anybody.

Bruce Worthington, president of Christian Advance, said that he thought ECSU was discriminating against his religion; the club's members believe that God told them to seek new converts. But Worthington said that his group doesn't use aggressive recruiting tactics.

The problem is that none of the people from ECSU or Christian Advance can agree on what defines aggressive recruiting. ECSU president Laurie Schiripa said that approaching individual students in the Meeting Place with a pamphlet and asking them to join their organization is aggressive recruiting. Bruce Worthington, president of Christian Advance, said that approaching individuals isn't aggressive recruiting.

Before ECSU pursues any more suspensions they need to sit down, preferably with the campus police and all the clubs, and devise rules for what are inappropriate recruiting tactics.

As we see it, no group should be banned from recruiting, especially during the first few weeks of the school year when every club is out to add students to their rosters. ECSU screwed up and rightly repealed their decision.

Of course, no club should be allowed to intimidate, harass, and abuse anybody. Clubs must follow the rules of the law, the College, and ECSU. ECSU and the university should deal harshly with clubs that refuse to follow those rules.

While we think Christian Advance is an annoyance, we haven't seen them using aggressive recruiting tactics, and so they should be left alone.

ECSU, kudos for taking a stand against harassing recruiting. Next time, be more prepared.

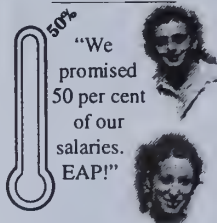
## You promised!

During their campaigns last year, Andy Baghaei and Rose Oliviera promised to donate 50 per cent of their salaries to student scholarships.

Baghaei and Oliviera thought that ECSU councillors were overpaid.

Baghaei and Oliviera thought that more of students' money should go back to students.

Baghaei and Oliviera thought that their promise to chop ECSU's salary structure in half would get them elected.

The Big Guy/Oliviera  
Promise Fund

"We promised 50 per cent of our salaries. EAP!"

And it did. But now our brave, budget-conscious councillors are reneging on their promise. Instead of donating half their salary, Baghaei said recently that "the donation will be somewhere around half our salary."

"Somewhere around half?" No, Big Guy. We want half.

Big guy Baghaei, we know that you promised to try to chop the entire council's salary structure, but we also know that isn't going to happen. Nobody on the council is going to vote to halve their salary, so cut to the chase and give up half of your salary. Not around half, not almost

half, half. And we don't want you to wait until the end of the year to assess how much you think is fair.

Big Guy, Oliviera, maybe you were naïve to think that ECSU was overpaid (they aren't, even if all they do is organize a half-decent orientation, run the Blind Duck, and hold regular council meetings), but too bad. You promised.

Until Big Guy and Oliviera give up half their salary, we're going to hold "The Big Guy Promise Fund." We promise.

The Medium is published weekly by Medium II Publications, a non-profit, incorporated student organization. The opinions expressed within are those of the writers and editors and do not necessarily reflect those of Medium II Publications. The Medium's mandate includes informing students of local and national concerns, and giving Erindale College students an opportunity to practice journalism. Retail and community advertising provided exclusively by The Mississauga News. National advertising provided exclusively by Campus Network.

We have the worst computers on the planet. Me and Cyrus almost cried it took so long to print this thing. We need money, and we need money fast. Does anybody want to buy our front page? Does anybody want to buy us? We saw Christian Advance marching up and down the Five Minute Walk at about midnight on Sunday. Maybe their hunting raccoons? Maybe their converting raccoons? Jen, I changed your pull-quote. Ask Mark. Mark looks so good Jen exploded. Vibe, I mean really. Do you have to play it so loud? Scott's a hot nude pics of Posh Spice. Mario won't come out of the john. Blurb contest: In five-hundred words or less describe life at Erindale after Radio Erindale loses its funding. (hint: post-apocalyptic, everybody's sad.) Not prize!

## EDITORIAL

## RADIO ERINDALE'S VAN:

## A MOBILE HEADACHE!



\*\*\* Radio Erindale decimated ECSU's frosh bar-b-que last Saturday. The bass was so loud we couldn't hear it. We still can't hear Radio Erindale.

CFRE: Can't Fix Radio Erindale.

## Life at the centre part II

BY ROBERT PRICE

Life at the Student Centre was a popular article last week. I'm going to do it again.

## Tuesday, September 7

For the past few days, a worker has been dumping buckets of powdered plaster into the woods behind the Student Centre. Today they are hosing down the forest in an effort to "melt" all the plaster. Looks like we could have an environmental disaster. Our forest looks like a cocaine factory.

This place is empty. All the construction workers are at Phase Six, scurrying to get the new residence open for frosh tomorrow. We take another unofficial tour and test the acoustics of the pub with a screaming match, a screaming match, a screaming match.

## Wednesday, September 8

Kevin from the Computer Centre fixed our network card. Thanks Kevin.

The centre is a little more lively today. Three workers were installing a window somewhere in the building. It broke on top of them. Gory mess. Not more than a half hour later we see the same guys marching up the stairs to get back to work. "Well that happens sometimes when you're putting windows in," says one of the workers. No, that happens when you break windows.

I pick up my residence keys and receive a free frisbee for "choosing Bell." We create a new game in the office, it's called "bank-shot frisbee." The winner is the guy who can bounce the disk off of as many people, chairs, walls, and windows as possible. Grand prize winner creates a gory mess.

## Thursday, September 9

Mark and I visit ECSU. Their "cult" activities are stressing them out. So is orientation.

The Blind Duck sure won't be open. ECSU has devised a plan for first pub. Schedule a whole bunch of buses and take all the Blind Duck Pubbers to a "mystery location" for the week. They'll keep hosting mystery pub until the Duck is open for business. Why is it called a mystery pub? Because it is a mystery when the pub will be completed.

Adam and Richie have been gone for days. They're frosh leaders. I talked to them on the phone today. Richie asked if the office was done. Was it near completion? Have they done any work on the place? You mean they haven't lifted a single finger to finish the office? Or the building?

## Friday, September 10

They're laying down a wood floor downstairs. Our office smells like a giant permanent marker. Mark and I got dizzy. Cyrus left because he said the fumes were getting to him (What? And glue doesn't?).

We called Randy. He came by and gave us a couple of fans.

We leave while the room airs out. We play frisbee outside.

Mark asks Randy why they had a hose running in the forest behind the Centre.

"Oh, they're trying to clean out the lines, I think," says Randy.

"Really, I heard that somebody dumped a whole lotta plaster out back and that they're trying to clean it up."

"Yeah. Some idiot dumped plaster out there. They're cleaning it up."

Good thing we knew the answer before Mark asked.

Varsity  
hypocrisy

BY ROBERT PRICE

Even though they say they are not in favour of corporations invading our university, The Varsity sure is eager to eat their words.

Corporations get prime real estate in The 'Varsity. It was bad enough The 'Shitty sold Nike a full page advertisement in the same issue it ragged on Nike for exploiting third world nations, but for their frosh issue, The 'Shit filled thirty-two pages of advertisements and gave away their third page! I guess that means that Shit endorses Labatt's, Microsoft, IBM and Bell Canada.

Not only did Shit fill its pages with advertisement after advertisement, they stuffed their paper with not one, but two pull-out advertisements. And one of them was a mammoth Ralph Lauren colour poster. On one side of the giant glossy is a collage of underage ladies with their shirts open and "girls lying with girls." On the other side is a jumbo picture of a sultry, shy, fifteen-ish looking girl.

It's good to see students like Liam Mitchell (see Letters, The Varsity, September 7) point Shit's hypocrisy out to them. Whether Shit changes colour or not remains to be seen.

University is about  
arguing.

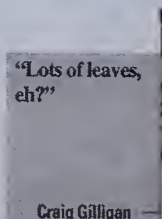
Respond to an opinion.  
(E-mail it. It's easier.)

... Lots of trees, eh?

TALKING  
HEADS

"Need some  
tp.?"

—Amanda Wipe



"Lots of leaves,  
eh?"

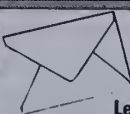
Craig Gilligan



In Ralph  
Wiggum's voice  
"What's a  
tree?"

—Joseph Desgracias

Photos by Avril Loreti



Letters to the editor  
will be edited for  
spelling, grammar,  
style, and coherence.

Letters will not exceed

500 words in print. Letters that incite hatred, violence or letters that are racist, homophobic, sexist, or libelous, will not be published. Letters reflect opinions of the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Editor-in-chief, other editors and staff, or The Medium's Board of Directors. Submission does not guarantee publication. Submission of a letter to The Medium presumes the writer has read, and agrees with, this Policy. Please submit letters on disk by noon Friday. Letters will not be printed unless accompanied by the author's phone number.

Letters Policy



## OPINION

## When the printer fails, get your rocks off. Hard.

BY ROBERT PRICE, ADAM GILES,  
CYRUS IRANI AND MARK BUDGELL

At six in the morning, after twenty hours of white walls and fumes, when dinner is chips and M & Ms, when your computer won't print graphics, you tend to lose a sense for good taste. For example, we should have put the Big Guy story on the top page with the headline "Big guy and Rose won't put out." We should have gone into radio. We should have gone home hours ago, slept, and put the paper out on Tuesday.

At six in the morning you wonder why the paper has to be com-

pleted by Monday morning...so we don't disappoint the hoards of eager students waiting for the latest hot-off-the-press edition of Erindale's only interesting student voice. Or, is it so that ECSU knows just when and why they'll be heading to court to defend their sorry asses. Maybe. We work so stupidly late because we want someone, anyone, to read our paper and be genuinely pissed-off. Or interested enough to write a letter. Come on guys, what do we have to do, print pictures of dead babies? Do we have to kill babies?

At six in the morning there are only so many ways you can scream

in frustration. After that your desperate cries go unheard to the ears that know the same frustration. Can anyone hear us in here? Help! Let us out of this newspaper, this fly infested dungeon. When your brain is so powerless you begin to believe that productivity is a word only economists should play with.

At six in the morning, do the hyenas still make me laugh? Yes, but why do they laugh? Are they laughing at me? And coyotes? Do they sleep at night? Will they love us tomorrow morning?

At six in the morning you calculate your hourly rate...5 cents.

At six in the morning we jam.

We jam with nothing to lommi. We jam with nothing to Jimi. We jam with nothing, like strawberries, to Frehley. We jam as months of detailed planning burn up with our blasted printer.

At six in the morning, when the sun peaks over the window sill, when breakfast is RC cola and Oh Henry bars, when Black Sabbath wakes the roosters, when your beard starts to itch, you realize that next to newsletters and fading memories, The Medium is the only continuous record of Erindale's history. Then the printer prints, the sky turns blue, the rotting apples spring sweet, the stomach settles,

and the trees, the leaves, the Credit, and the dead babies rise and proclaim in unison, "The Medium! How would we know ourselves without you?!"

Got a problem with dead babies?

Write opinions.

828-5260



# ATTENTION

## ALL FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATES



## THE STUDENTS' ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL IS HOLDING ITS 1999 FALL BY-ELECTIONS

**"If you really want to get involved at the University of Toronto, run for a position on the SAC Board of Directors."**

### 1ST NOMINATION PERIOD

START: Monday, Sept. 20 • 9:00am

FINISH: Friday, Sept. 24 • 5:00pm

### 2ND NOMINATION PERIOD

START: Monday, Sept. 27 • 9:00am

FINISH: Thursday, Sept. 30 • 5:00pm

### CAMPAIGNING PERIOD

START: Saturday, Oct. 2 • 12:01am

FINISH: Wednesday, Oct 6 • 11:59pm

### RUNNING FOR A SEAT ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS?

Come to the SAC office and pick up your nomination forms. The downtown office is located at 12 Hart House Circle and the UTM office is in room 131 of the NEW Student Centre. For more info call 978-4911

### WHY HAVE TWO NOMINATION PERIODS?

In the SAC elections, there is a second nomination period which opens in order to fill the vacancies left from the first nomination period. These vacancies can be filled by a full-time undergrad from another constituency.

### BRING YOUR IDENTIFICATION

Full-time undergraduates may vote by presenting any one of (a) a valid U of T student card with this year's registration sticker affixed to the back, (b) a TCord (formerly Smart Card) with a 1999-2000 TCard wallet (TCards alone will not be accepted), or (c) a letter from the student's registrar confirming your status as a full-time student.

### WHERE TO VOTE

Polls will be held at the constituencies requiring an election and in the lobby of the Sidney Smith Building on Thursday, October 7th between 11am and 6pm.

### VACANT SEATS ON THE SAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

COLLEGE OR FACULTY	# OF SEATS
OISE/UT	1
Occupational & Physical Therapy	1
Transitional Year Programme	1
Nursing	1
Innis College	1
Erindale College (UTM)	1
New College	1
St. Michaels College	1

**SAC ELECTION DAY - COME OUT AND VOTE!**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7TH • 11AM TO 6PM**



# Alcohol Abuse at UTM

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

One day, ancient Man had the serendipity to leave some rotting fruit and water out in the sun to ferment. The result was the invention of alcohol – a magical substance, which we have now refined and imbibed for centuries. Man has always sought to alter, escape, or perceive his reality in new and different ways.

Students come to university in the hopes of exploring reality from a different angle, from the point of view of a different institution than they experienced previously. Some students seek to expand their minds academically, while others

seek to expand their minds through the use of licit and illicit substances. Some students chose to abuse substances like alcohol because it is legal, easily accessible, distorts reality, and promotes acceptance from peers. Unfortunately, some students with poor coping skills develop drinking problems, and become unable to control the quantity and the frequency of

**Many university students think their peers drink more than they really do, when on average, they actually drink less.**

their alcohol consumption.

According to Niki Goruk, a nurse with UTM Health Services, only a few people ask for help to deal with alcoholism, and view asking for help as “a last-ditch resort.” The number of people requesting her assistance has stayed roughly the same over the past three years.

Jim Delaney, University of Toronto manager of liaison & campus life services, thinks that it is essential to “bust the myth that university students drink a lot. Many university students think their peers drink more than they really do, when on average, they actually drink less.” He attributes students’ inaccurate perceptions of peer drinking habits to overemphasized anecdotes of ‘drinking stories’ as well as an inaccurate portrayal of college drinking habits in the media. He also believes that bombarding university students with negative, frightening images about the consequences of alcohol abuse are ineffective in deterring inappropriate drinking behavior. He believes that “students think they’re invincible, so negative images do not have a positive educational message. What works is telling students what normal behavior actually is and identifying more realistic

(scenarios and the) consequences for their choices.”

Head don Christina Hosein agrees many students arrive at university with misconceptions about how much alcohol university students actually consume. She feels that problem drinking occurs at university because a lot of students “don’t know what abuse is. There’s a misconception about what is healthy behavior.” In previous years, residence dons “unofficially turned a blind eye” to underage drinking, but this year, UTM residence is implementing a new alcohol policy based on some problems they encountered with last year’s first year students. Now residence students, legal age or not, will be ejected from residence if they are caught vandalizing property, harassing or assaulting others, or if they are caught binge drinking or poisoned by alcohol more than once. Christina also believes teaching students to make connections between what they learn inside and outside the classroom may help them to make rational decisions about substance abuse.

Erindale is one of the few UTM colleges to have a ‘dry’ frosh week. ECSU advertising director Carmen Ali thinks that having a dry frosh week sets a precedent that may prevent alcohol abuse on campus. “By having a dry frosh now, it will be easier to pre-

vent underage people from drinking. We don’t want to exclude anybody from frosh week because of their religious beliefs or because they’re unable to participate if they’re underage.”

Some researchers attribute significantly high rates of alcoholism in North America to its lack of strict social norms defining ‘appropriate’ alcohol consumption and ‘inappropriate’ alcohol consumption. Countries such as Norway, the U.K., Sweden, Ireland, Iceland, Finland, Canada, the U.S., New Zealand, and Australia are labeled ‘temperance’ nations because they drink less per capita than ‘non-temperance’ countries such as Italy, France, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, Germany, Denmark, Austria, Belgium, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands. ‘Temperance’ nations also tend to drink more distilled spirits and hard liquor than ‘non-temperance’ nations, who tend to prefer wine. Overall, temperance nations have higher death rates and more alcohol-related diseases than non-temperance nations. Cross-cultural analysts suspect that some western countries suffer more alcohol abuse because they are more abstinence-oriented, and are more likely to condemn or fear alcohol, treating it as a volatile and uncontrollable substance. Conversely, non-temperance nations,

continued on page six

## Some Statistics

80 per cent of teenagers are unaware that a can of beer, a shot of whiskey, and a glass of wine contain the same amounts of alcohol.

In an American high school study, 18 per cent of females and 39 per cent of males say that it is acceptable for a male to force himself sexually on a female who is stoned or drunk.

Some researchers estimate that alcohol use is a factor in one to two-thirds of sexual assaults among high school and university students.

A clear correlation exists between alcohol use and the GPA of university students: students with GPAs of D or worse drink three times more than those who earn As.

Nearly 50 per cent of college students who were victims of campus crimes said they were abusing alcohol at the time they were victimized.

38 per cent of college and university students binge drink at least once every two weeks.

In North America, the average age at which a person first uses alcohol is 13.



## The SAC Health & Dental Insurance Plans

### THE PLANS

All full-time undergraduates (4 credits or more) are automatically covered under the Accident and Sickness Insurance Plan and the Student Dental Plan.

The Health Plan is based on a pay-direct card system that covers 80% of most curative prescription drugs prescribed by a physician. A pay-direct drug card will be mailed, to all students that are new to the plan, during first semester. Otherwise, you will be using the card that you received in the mail last year.

### OPTING-OUT

You may opt-out of either or both of these plans during the September 1st to October 15th opt-out period. However, in order to opt-out of the Accident & Sickness Insurance plan you must declare that you are already covered under another extended health care plan (not including OHIP or UHIP). Refund cheques will then be mailed to you in the amount \$45.60 for the health plan and \$77.52 for the dental plan.

### MORE INFORMATION

For more information regarding these plans please visit our web site [www.sac.utoronto.ca](http://www.sac.utoronto.ca), call (905) 828-5494 or stop by any of the SAC offices.

### OFFICE LOCATIONS

St. George: 12 Hart House Circle  
Scarborough: R-3006 (above Java Junction)  
Erindale: NEW Student Centre, Room 131

[www.sac.utoronto.ca](http://www.sac.utoronto.ca) • (905) 828-5494

**INSURANCE PLAN OPT-OUT PERIOD RUNS BETWEEN SEPT 1 AND OCT 15**

### HEALTH PLAN COVERAGE

- ✓ Pays 80% of the cost of curative prescription drugs
- ✓ Various accident coverage
- ✓ Pays \$100 of Prescription Eyewear/2 years
- ✓ Optional family coverage (91.20 + pst)
- ✓ The NEW Pay direct drug card will be mailed directly to you
- ✓ 24 hour coverage

### DENTAL PLAN COVERAGE

- ✓ 80% Dental Exam includes diagnosis, treatment plan and x-rays
- ✓ 60% Cleaning and Fluoride treatments
- ✓ 50% fillings, extractions, periodontic work & root canals
- ✓ Optional family coverage (155.04 + pst)
- ✓ Up to \$800 per person per year
- ✓ 24 hour coverage



## Dangerous myths about alcohol

**Myth:** There is less alcohol in a shooter than a 12 ounce can of beer.

**Fact:** A 12 ounce can of beer contains the same amount of alcohol as a 5 ounce glass of wine or a shot of hard liquor.

**Myth:** The health benefits of alcohol consumption apply to people who have more than four drinks a day.

**Fact:** Moderate drinkers (those who have no more than two drinks a day) are less likely to develop or die from heart disease than those who choose to abstain from alcohol. People who consume four or more drinks a day are classified as 'heavy drinkers' and may suffer from high blood pressure, strokes, heart attacks, and an increased probability of death due to accidents.

**Myth:** Occasionally 'letting loose' and failing to monitor your alcohol consumption can't kill you.

**Fact:** Binge drinking kills thousands of students in North America each year. Binge drinking is defined as the consumption of five or more drinks in a row on at least one occasion. Apart from the risk of alcohol poisoning (which can occur as a result of binge drinking), binge drinkers are more likely to become the victims of violent crimes (such as date rapes). They are also more likely to have unplanned pregnancies and contract sexually transmitted diseases, like AIDS.

## Alcohol abuse

continued from page six

while they drink with greater frequency, have more constructive social norms regarding drinking behavior – they are explicitly taught the difference between 'good' and 'bad' drinking styles, and drunken behavior is culturally disapproved. A self-fulfilling prophecy falls into play, where people are able to control their drinking because they are taught exactly how alcohol should be consumed responsibly. The lack of universally agreed-upon social standards in temperance nations forces the drinker to set his own 'norms'. Without a model to imitate, drinkers who do not choose to abstain are more likely to drink excessively, and view alcohol as an uncontrollable substance, obliterating the possibility of self-management for the drinker.

So how can alcohol abuse on campus be controlled? Jim Delaney thinks it is essential not to be afraid to speak to friends about possible drinking problems, as a member of the administration, or a residence don would find less success asking the same person to drink responsibly. Realize that you have a personal and civic responsibility to inform people you care about if you think they have a drinking problem.

Alcohol abuse could be prevented if North America emulated the drinking habits of non-temperance nations. But re-educating an entire culture and society about how to view alcohol as a substance that can be controlled is a complex and controversial task. On a campus level, students should advocate 'sensible' drinking habits as opposed to total abstinence from alcohol, and enforce the notion that drunken behavior is not socially acceptable under any circumstances.



Even though this little old man looks harmless, his liver is a grotesque entity which may cause dizziness and heart palpitations.

## Could you have a drinking problem?

The following twelve questions, adapted from Alcoholics Anonymous' Twelve Questions for Teenagers, can help identify whether you or someone you know suffers from alcoholism. If you answer 'yes' to all, or at least a significant majority of these questions, you could be suffering from alcoholism.

- Do you drink because you have problems, or to relax?
- Do you drink when you get mad at other people, such as your friends or parents?
- Do you prefer to drink alone rather than with others?
- Are your grades starting to slip? Are you "goofing" off on your job?
- Did you ever try to stop drinking or drink less, yet fail?
- Have you begun to drink in the morning, before school or work?
- Do you gulp your drinks?
- Do you ever experience memory loss due to your drinking?
- Do you lie about your drinking?
- Do you ever get into trouble when you're drinking?
- Do you get intoxicated when you drink, even unintentionally?
- Do you think it's "cool" to be able to hold your liquor?

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) is one type of recovery program for alcoholism. Its goal is to provide fellowship, strength and hope to those who have a desire to stop drinking and achieve sobriety. The average AA member is someone who has hit 'rock bottom' (ie. someone who has a strong physical dependency on alcohol and is unable to control their drinking under any circumstances). For this type of person, total abstinence is the most successful route to recovery.

However, there are many drinkers who may be unsure about the severity of their drinking problem, and who have not yet developed a physical dependency on the substance but make poor choices with regard to alcohol consumption. For these people, different types of early intervention recovery systems may be more appropriate in helping to control their drinking problems. Some recovery systems teach and advocate moderation, and have helped problem drinkers achieve their goals of sobriety and responsible.

Many of these unique recovery systems were created in response to "disagreeable" elements of AA. For example, AA's emphasis on the existence of a 'superior being' made many atheists uncomfortable, and many alcoholics disliked the self-fulfilling prophecy of treating alcoholism as an uncontrollable and incurable disease.

However, no recovery system can cure every type of alcoholic.

## NOW WITH TWO LOCATIONS

(Hope this won't affect your studies)

DICK'S GRILLE & VINE CO.  
MISSISSAUGA  
Sussex Centre  
2nd Floor  
Burnhamthorpe Road,  
west of Hurontario Street  
Tel: (905) 949-1115



DICK'S GRILLE & VINE CO.  
OAKVILLE  
Oakville Entertainment Centre  
Winston Churchill Blvd.  
north of Q.E.W.  
outside AMC Movie Theatre  
Tel: (905) 829-0370

really!

## THE BIG NIGHTS

(COME EARLY AND THE ONLY THING YOU'LL MISS IS THE LINE UP)

WEDNESDAY LADIES NIGHT w/DJ.....Dick's Grille & Vine Co.-MISSISSAUGA  
THURSDAY LADIES NIGHT w/DJ.....Dick's Grille & Vine Co.-OAKVILLE  
FRIDAY & SATURDAY NIGHT -w/LIVE BAND/ DJ COMBO.....BOTH LOCATIONS  
SUNDAY RETRO NIGHT w/DJ.....Dick's Grille & Vine Co.-OAKVILLE

welcome back...have a great year!



## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

## A day in the life of a film festival

BY RICHIE MEHTA

Every September, film makers from around the world bring their latest works to Toronto for what some critics have called the "best film festival in the world." The 24th annual Toronto International Film festival began last Thursday with a gala presentation of Atom Egoyan's latest film *Felicia's Journey*.

For the aspiring film maker, Toronto represents a once in a lifetime opportunity to break out from oblivion and make the cover of *Entertainment Weekly*. And for the studios, Toronto is just another way to sell a major motion picture in a film festival, thereby making the film look more sophisticated than it actually is.

But everyone knows the real attraction are the hordes of celebrities that grace our fair city.

This year the line-up is impressive, with celebrities such as Jewel, Jason Lee, Kevin Spacey, Annette Bening, Ethan Hawke, Jeff Bridges, Nick Nolte, Danny DeVito, Bruce Willis, Robin Williams, Natalie Portman, Susan Sarandon, and Ralph Fiennes attending.

What follows is a comprehensive journal on my experiences at the Film festival, from attending press screenings of upcoming releases, to schmoozing with the glamorous stars we only know from the silver screen.

## Day 1

8:30am: press screening for Touchstone Pictures' *Mumford*

The film is the latest from writer/producer/director Lawrence Kasdan (*Grand Canyon*, *The Big Chill*, and screenwriter for *The Empire Strikes Back* and *Return of the Jedi*). The ensemble comedy/drama focuses on small town psychologist Dr. Mumford, who, within four months of moving into the town, has most of the citizens telling him their deepest secrets. The problem is that Dr. Mumford isn't really a psychologist.

The cast includes Kasdan collaborators from the past Alfre Woodard and Mary McDonnell, as well as Loren Dean, Hope Davis, Jason Lee, Martin Short, Ted Danson, and David Paymer.

What makes the film so effective are its underlying messages. All of these characters have dark secrets, as do most of us, and the film looks at the relationship between what we think, and how we present ourselves. Some of the situations are too quirky at times, but other moments — any scene with Jason Lee, who plays Skip, the lonely Billionaire — are often hilarious and authentic. As with *Grand Canyon*, Kasdan pinned down not only basic human tendencies, but asked such universal questions that one can't help but be involved with the characters.

A good start to the festival.

## 11:00am: Press conference at the festival headquarters, the Park Hyatt hotel.

I entered the press conference room and was nearly overwhelmed by the amount of cameramen and local and International press (local and international) that patiently waited for the talent to arrive.

At that point, the mediator announced the arrival of actors Skeet Ulrich, Tobey Maguire, Jewel, Jeffrey Wright, director Ang Lee (*Sense and Sensibility*, *The Ice Storm*) and screenwriter James Schamus. Cheering and flash photography greeted the troupe, who promoted their new civil war drama *Ride with the Devil*.



After a few moments, the excitement died down, and the questions began.

What came out of this session was the actors' appreciation for Ang Lee's style and his approach to making films. "There was a rehearsal period for a month," say Lee, "and I took an organic approach to the project...it had a life of its own. I was just an observer...the actors brought the characters to life."

After hearing Lee's insight, the focus of the session shifted to Jewel. I asked Jewel about her cross-over between music and films, she expressed how fun acting was, and how she would look for more diverse roles that didn't necessarily reflect the hopeful and optimistic messages in her music.

What surprises me the most about these celebrities is how the press responds to their work. One press member reflect on a particular aspect of the film, to which the actors nonchalantly replied, "we never really thought about that." It suggests to me perhaps these celebrities aren't as god-like as we perceive them, but people who have been placed there by over-excited fans. I dismissed that foolish notion immediately and went to the next conference.

12:00pm: Second press conference with *Mumford* cast

This session began in much the same way, only the stage was overcrowded with cast members. The mediator introduced the *Mumford* talent-actors Hope Davis, Loren Dean, Jane Adams, Pruitt Taylor Vince, Jason Lee, Zoëy Deschanel, and writer/director Lawrence Kasdan.

The group discussed the film and the validity of its concepts. Issues such as depression, the usefulness of therapy, and human interaction were looked at. Kasdan gave a great deal of insight into the topic. "We live in a world where people want to jump in and tell you what they feel," Kasdan remarked, "not listen to what you have to say. It's hard to find people who listen, digest what you've said, and develop a proper response to what you've said. [Mumford] hears, absorbs, and responds."

As the audience digested what Kasdan said, the conversation took on a lighter note. Jason Lee, best known for his role as Brodie in Kevin Smith's *Mallrats* and Banky in *Chasing Amy*, gave his thoughts on the different type of character he plays in *Mumford*. "It's nice to play a different role. Something other than a wise-ass know-it-all. Here I'm not witty, or wise-cracking, so I don't have the dialogue to rely on to define the character. I have to use mannerisms—a new type of walk, a look to help define the

character, so it's a lot harder." Lee's work pays off, it's one of the most charming performances in the film.

Lunch time: Street hot dog!!!

2:15pm: Dialogue session with Lawrence Kasdan.

I arrived at the Cumberland cinemas and was told that a "dialogue" session consisted of a particular writer or director, in this case, Kasdan, who chooses a film that has influenced him greatly. Kasdan chose to show us Akira Kurosawa's *Yojimbo*. After the screening, Kasdan came to the front of the theatre to discuss the film, and his career. Kasdan commented on how Kurosawa, and other foreign greats Jean Renoir and Francois Truffaut, influenced modern cinema. Kasdan looked at Westerns in particular, and how their embodiment of the basic moral character of the United

States worked well.

When asked about how he went from writing the screenplays for *Star Wars* and *Indiana Jones* to directing *Grand Canyon* and *The Big Chill*, he responded by citing the diversity of his Western, film noir, and Japanese adventure film influences.

The most insightful comment on modern film came when Kasdan remarked that "the problem with Hollywood is that the studio material is getting narrower and narrower since they have to sell a film in a 30 second commercial. All that matters now is that opening weekend, and that makes it difficult to market a film like *Mumford*."

The issue of film style also arose. As with many older classics, *Yojimbo* being no exception, devices such as long takes were used more, compared with the *Armageddon*-style editing where ten images flash before you in 3 seconds. Kasdan was clear on his stance on the matter: "Blocking is a term used to describe how you move actors in a scene, and how they relate to each other and the camera. That has been almost eliminated. In modern action films the camera is too close to the object, and the edits are very quick. Doing this is like telling the audience they have no patience to sit through a developed shot. The more we encourage impatience in the audience, the less we challenge them."

Kasdan's films show this attitude. He's always challenging the audience with questions, rather than simply giving them the answer, and that kind of stimulation is one of the true functions of art.

On that thought the dialogue ended, as did my first day with the film festival.

This is only a taste of what the festival offers. Whether it be a recollection of great film classics, introduction to new film makers, or simply a glimpse of your favorite celebrity, chances are the Toronto International Film Festival has it. You can order tickets by calling the festival hotline: (416) 968-FILM.



Jewel, above left, and Jason Lee, were among the celebrities that attended the Toronto International Film Festival.

## Variety of music graces the charts

## CD/REVIEWS

Afro Celt Sound System  
Volume 2: Release  
(EMI - Realworld)

As with the Realworld release of Joi's *One and One is One* this CD is a cultural amalgamation of new-age sounds. With an African-Irish sound, some parts fiddling, some parts African vocals, all electronically tweaked for a new-age feel, this CD has something new and interesting in each track. "Lovers of Light," with its intense fiddling, and "Eireann," with its exotic dialect and steady hum, produce pleasing sounds, which remind the listener how precious and exciting this alternative type of music can be.

-Richie Mehta

Moist  
Mercedes Five and Dime  
(EMI)

Moist has this rare ability to produce a similar sound from album to album and get away with it because their songs are just so damn good. The first single off *Mercedes Five and Dime*, "Breathe," is vintage Moist and impossible for any fan to dislike, even mildly. If you catch yourself singing along to the chorus, "If only I could breathe what you breathe," don't worry — you're not alone. "Comes and Goes" is another majestic tune that is reminiscent of previous Moist songs. The track is easily one of the highlights of the new record with its repetitive, yet rhythmic flood of music. The loveable lead singer, David Usher, and guitarist Mark Makoway are the two most prevalent musicians on the album, with Kevin Young on keyboards as a close third. One element of Moist that many people notice is that most of their songs have one-word titles, which make them more memorable. But even with simple titles such as "Dogs," "Fish," "Tonight," "Alive," and "Liberation," each song has a deep and personal narrative.

By Adam Giles

Chucho Valdés  
Religion of the Congo  
(EMI)

Grammy winner Valdés' latest release is a cross between Jazz and Cuban pop music. This interesting cross-over produces some innovative jazz tunes, especially with "El Rumbon," which starts the CD off on an energetic level, with Valdés improvising at some points, as well as combining the Cuban percussion with steady piano. The final percussion bout, which keeps on going much to the listeners delight, ends on a surprising, recognizable note. The rest of the CD, which has finer, slower pieces, and faster pieces with lots of rhythm and movement, follows in a similar manner with its provocative nature, its unpredictability, and its tendency to impress.

-Richie Mehta



## Mystery, Alaska too cold for comfort

If you live in a tiny, Nordic armpit town with nothing to do except get drunk and have sex, what other pastimes are left to partake in? According to director Jay Roach, play hockey.

### FILM/REVIEW

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

Roach's latest effort concerns a group of warm-hearted recreational hockey players in the tiny town of *Mystery, Alaska*, who play their sport every Saturday afternoon in order to give the town's citizens something to do. Their lives are transformed after a former (and heartily disliked) citizen, played by Hank Azaria, writes a feature for *Sport Illustrated* about the 'weekly game,' sparking the interest of the National Hockey League. Eventually, the New York Rangers are scheduled to compete with the Alaskan redneck rogues, and that's when the characters in the movie are forced to deal with the realities of their small-town lives.



Russel Crowe and Mary McCormack share a poignant moment in *Mystery, Alaska*.

Sensitive, delicately crafted performances abound in this movie, particularly from Russell Crowe, the team's oldest member and underdog, who becomes disturbed by the way he is shuffled on and off the team while his wife, played by Mary McCormack, seems a little too happy that Hank Azaria is back in town again. His unpredictable range of concealed emotions make the viewer feel as though he were about to explode at any minute. Colm Meaney, as the town mayor, and the mayor's wife, played by Lolita Davidovich, also deliver sparkling and charming performances. *Breaker High* star (and Canadian native) Rachel Wilson's performance stretches far beyond the cliché of the small-town hockey girlfriend. One of the highlights is Burt Reynolds, who plays the town's staunch, charming, gentleman Judge who is eventually asked to take over as coach of the Saturday team.

Despite these sparkling performances that force the audience to genuinely care about the play's characters, something is a little too frozen and forced about *Mystery, Alaska*. Perhaps it tries a little too hard to be feel-good, perhaps it is just a little too conventional and saccharine (despite the director's graphic treatment of script material) or perhaps the quality of the writing simply isn't up to par. However, it is a viable, more adult alternative to the *Mighty Ducks* for people who miss watching hockey on the big screen, and the performances are touching and complex enough to hold the viewer's attention – even though the film is altogether forgettable.

## Torch River a hit across Canada

Erindale alumnus Terry Costa wants to set the acting world on fire.

The UNI Theatre artistic director scooped up the 1999 Mississauga Arts Award as an emerging theatre talent last year, then left Mississauga early last summer to garner rave reviews from across Canada for his latest production, *Torch River*.



photo/courtesy of Steve J.

Terry Costa enjoys his success.

River sold out and was an audience favourite.

For Costa, the two-month tour provided an opportunity to strengthen his conviction in theatre and his friendship with Jardine, who is currently vacationing in Europe.

"We've been working together for four years now, the fact that we were together reinforced our relationship and made it easier to work together and share our talents.

"We had never done a tour before. It was something that we knew we wanted to do for the rest of our lives – to take our work

around the world."

Costa isn't ready to pass the torch of success to anyone else. UNI Theatre is booked straight until September 2000, with February and March performances of *Torch River* in Seattle, San Francisco, Phoenix, and possible dates in Flagstaff, Tucson, Berkeley, Oakland, Winnipeg, Vancouver, and Victoria.

*Torch River* evolved during its tour. "It kept growing day by day," said Costa. "We were able to add and take away what needed to be. Two months with a new audience every day lets you do that."

For *Torch River*'s run next year,

Costa wants the show to be longer. "Right now it's only forty-five minutes. Shannon will write more in the winter so that when we remount in the summer it will be about an hour."

Before jetting off to new venues, Costa will workshop UNI Theatre's latest project, *discovery@erotic*, a show he describes as "the most risqué show to ever hit the Mississauga stages." *discovery@erotic*, a melange of writings, song, music, and dance, showcases the struggles that single men, single women, and couples go through together. "It's about life, dream and fantasy. It's about why people get together."

Casting for *Discovery@erotic* is open to UTM students and will open in December 1999.

Along with *discovery@erotic*, UTM students can catch Costa's work at the Burnhamthorpe Library Theatre, where he will direct a social issues play for Misconceptions Youth Theatre, as well as on-campus, where he will lead a murder-mystery night at the Student Centre.

meeting rooms restaurant lounge  
convenience store t.v. room  
arcade pub patio

and more in your new

# Student Centre

## opening soon!

upcoming events:

Clubs Week - Sept.20-24

Volunteerism Fair - Sept.29, 10-1:30

Professional Schools Fair - Oct.6, 12-2

Survival Day - Oct.13



## SPORTS

## Men's Intramural Ball Hockey is back!

## Changes aplenty for UTM's most popular sport

BY ADAM GILES

The words that hundreds of UTM students have been waiting to hear have finally been uttered: "Ball hockey is back." After a painful year without UTM's most popular sport, players can now dust off their hockey sticks and prepare for Men's Intramural Non-Contact Ball Hockey.

In the Report of the Task Force on Men's Ball Hockey, the league was renamed to

"We're going to be doing evaluations on an ongoing basis"  
— Jack Krist

can be resolved by stiffening the penalties, then we might be able to have the league go again."

Last year's cancellation of men's ball hockey arose as a result of an escalation of violence and racial taunts in the previous year. In the 1998 season, play halted for a week for these reasons and returned only after players signed fair play contracts and spectators were banned. Many players and fans said they were being unfairly punished, and they blamed the suspension and subsequent cancellation on "a few bad apples." Regardless of how many people

were at fault, the increasing violence made it clear that change was necessary and rules and responsibilities had to be clarified.

The Department of Athletics and Recreation, recently renamed the Centre for Physical Education put a stop to men's ball hockey. The report explained that men's ball hockey "developed into a culture of violence and racism and only a drastic step can interrupt its momentum." Adhering to the DAR report recommendations, athletics director Mary Ann Pilskalnietis cancelled UTM's troubled sport.

The Task Force on Men's Ball Hockey came up with rule changes, clarifications, and recommendations to restart the league. The new and improved league will include the code of fair play that players, spectators, officials, coaches, and captains must



file photo

Men's ball hockey players can dust off their sticks and get ready to resume play of UTM's great athletic tradition.

observe. Krist describes the code as "a guideline for behaviour and anyone who doesn't abide by it may be asked to leave the facility."

A new gymnasium floor plan, designed to separate one team from the other, both teams from the spectators, and the timer from the spectators and both teams, was implemented. The team benches are now located in each of the two triangular corners across from the bleachers. Only the spectators will sit in the bleachers, as the penalty box and the timer were moved to

the far corner beyond the bleachers by the Fit Stop entrance. In the past, everyone sat in the bleachers, resulting in a cramped atmosphere and endless problems.

Regarding rule changes, Krist explains that "the wording on all penalties has been simply stated so that they are clear to everyone." Minor penalties will be given for sliding (or dropping to your knees), raising your stick above your shoulders (even if no contact is made with the ball), golf shots (swinging at the ball in a circular

motion), and falling on the ball (except for the goalie). Major penalties will be given for such things as hitting from behind, spitting, uttering racial slurs, and constant verbal abuse. These rules are aimed at decreasing instances where players may be hurt and incidents that may lead to retaliatory violence. Also, games will consist of three players and a goalie rather than last year's setup of four players and a goalie. This change was implemented to open up the playing surface and reduce the amount of contact that occurs. The report says that the UTM Intramural Handbook and Rules of Play will be posted on the Web and outside the gym where everyone has access to it.

As well, every team will have to cough up a mandatory league fee of \$40 on top of their default bond, which has been raised to \$40. "It's not a huge fee but it will make players take more ownership in the league and demand more from the commissioners," said Krist. Beginning this year, all intramural teams will have to pay entry fees of \$20 per team except men's and women's ball hockey, which is \$40.

Athletics will train officials for men's ball hockey before the season and evaluate the officials throughout the year to ensure that they are competent. The report also points out that all officials, departmental program staff, and facility staff will be trained in the Code of Fair Play. In addition, Krist says, "We're trying to get the campus police to offer a nonviolent crisis intervention course for the convenors, commissioners, and officials. Captains and team reps will be invited as well. It's for their benefit because sometimes they're the ones that have to actually get in there and separate players and if they don't do it in the right way, things could get out of hand."

"All the officials this year will have to wear jerseys," added Krist. "We don't want the appearance that someone was just pulled from the stands and given a whistle." When asked if the use of OBHA referees is possible, Krist

## UTM Athletic Council welcomes frosh

## Playfair and carnival kick off frosh week '99

BY ADAM GILES

UTM's annual frosh week kicked off on September 9, as the UTM Athletic Council welcomed first-year students to post-secondary life. The council, formerly known as ECARA, contributed Playfair and an athletics carnival to orientation 1999, which encouraged positive interaction among frosh.

This was the ninth time Playfair was held at UTM and the eighth time it was led by the enthusiastic Jerry Ewen. Ewen explained that Playfair is designed to make all frosh who had the initiative to participate in the orientation events feel more comfortable meeting people in their new environment. Ewen emphasized the diversity in our university community and the importance of individuality and preached many very important lessons that we've heard before but not necessarily learned: avoid judging people based on their sex, race, religion, or other general characteristics and avoid following the crowd.

Ewen stressed the importance of welcoming new students into events with enthusiasm and an open mind because as soon as they feel uncomfortable or out of place

they will not have an enjoyable university experience. In Playfair, Ewen stuck to the same techniques that have been successful in previous orientations to break the ice among the large group of nervous and hesitant frosh. He instructed frosh to find everyone with the same month of birth and jokingly suggested to plan a party with people who share the same birthday. Each group then formed a circle and sat on the lap of the person behind them and tried to walk. He gathered people into "core" groups who bonded together with their own secret word and greeting (one of which was a thumb pulling off the forehead and the word "cheese-whiz"). And Ewen explained that at anytime if someone needed an

extra confidence boost all they had to do was yell "I need a standing ovation!" and a mob of people would rush over to meet the request. In the end Ewen made frosh more comfortable in their new environment and more confident interacting with other people.

After Playfair, the UTM athletic council held a series of events and competitions for first-year students to participate in. Things were chaotic since leaders and frosh looked the same in white t-shirts and frosh didn't have any leaders to follow from station to station. Thankfully, leaders posted throughout the South Building held the carnival together. The atmosphere resembled that of play-days from elementary school. Events

included a basketball shootout, ball hockey accuracy and hardest shot competition, indoor soccer accuracy shootout, rowing regatta, weightlifting, and Yolf (golf down a stairwell). There was also a rest station where frosh could take a breather after the intense competition. Students won prizes, met new people, and had fun. The primary goal of the day was to get as many first-year students to interact with each other as possible and it was achieved as they directed each other around the South Building, explained the object of an event to someone else, or spoke in passing. Interaction was inevitable during the games, since Playfair gave the close-quartered frosh something to talk about.



photo/Avril Loreti

UTM frosh sweat profusely during the rowing regatta at the UTM Athletic Council carnival.

Ball hockey continued on page 11



## Interfaculty Fall League Team Try-out Dates

From September 19, 1999

### Sept. 19

Men's Ice Hockey  
@ 10-11pm Clarkson Arena

### Sept. 21

Women's Basketball  
@7-8pm Gym

Women's Volleyball  
@6-7pm Gym

Men's Basketball @8-9pm Gym

Men's Volleyball @7-8pm Gym

### Sept. 22

Women's Basketball  
@7-8pm Gym

Women's Volleyball  
@8-9pm Gym

Men's Basketball  
@6:30-8pm Gym

Men's Volleyball  
@ 9-10pm Gym

### Sept. 23

Women's Basketball  
@7-8pm Gym

Women's Ice Hockey  
@7-8am Huron Park Arena

Women's Volleyball  
@5-6:30pm Gym

Men's Basketball  
@9-10pm Gym

Men's Volleyball  
@6:30-8pm Gym

### Sept. 26

Men's Ice Hockey  
@10:30-11:30pm Erin Mills  
Twin Arena

For more information, please contact the Centre for Physical Education at 828-3714 or pick up a 1999 Activity Guide from room 1114 in the South Building.

# Time has run out for the Jays in 1999

BY ADAM GILES

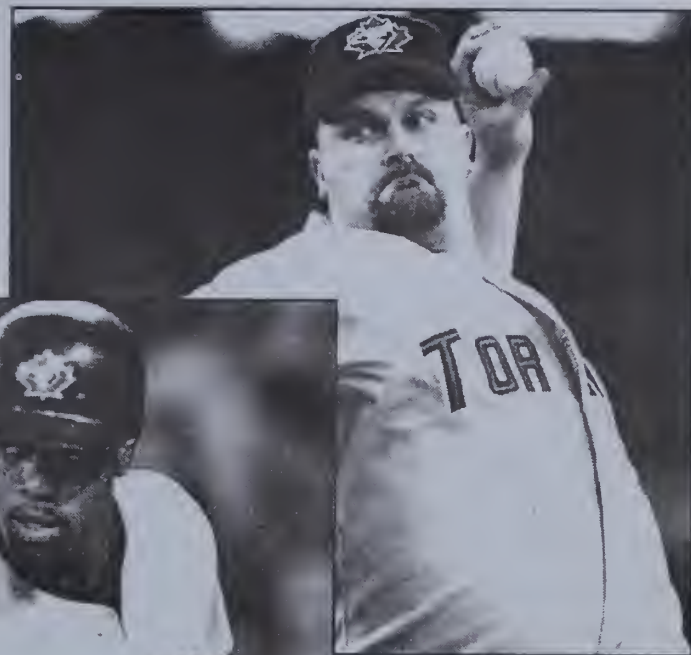
The Toronto Blue Jays can finish the season fighting but that's just about the best they'll be able to do this year. Although it was great to see the Jays jockeying for the American League wild-card slot, the team does not have a good enough team to steal it away from the Boston Red Sox or the Oakland Athletics.

The Jays were a wild-card contender for a large part of this season but recently their play dramatically dropped off. It will take a massive turnaround similar to one they pulled out earlier this season to point the Jays in the right direction. But with only 19 games remaining (as of September 12) and being five and a half games behind Boston, any kind of comeback will be an enormous task to conquer. And although the Jays have hope that the AL wildcard is an attainable goal, the team's weak roster suggests that their chances are dim.

Tony Fernandez, who currently leads the team with a .335 batting average, flirted with .400 for a while but has fizzled out since then. Pat Hentgen, Joey Hamilton, and Roy Halladay have been the worm in the apple of the Jays' pitching staff as Chris Carpenter and David Wells try

to pick up the slack. Hentgen, a former Cy Young winner, is 10-10 with a 4.90 ERA; not the kind of numbers you'd expect from a premier pitcher. Closer Billy Koch has blown more leads than washed-up real estate salesmen and Jose Cruz Jr. can't find his place in the major league. The desperate addition of Pat Borders, who is batting .308 after 26 at-bats will not do anything to push the Jays past the Red Sox or A's in the face of all the underachievers in the lineup. With the likes of Shawn Green and Carlos Delgado cranking homers on a regular basis, Homer Bush's healthy batting average of .309, and Tony Batista's surprising numbers, the Jays won't drift too far off pace but their inability to beat the teams in front of them will be their downfall.

The Jays led both Boston and Oakland after an unbelievable stretch from June 28 to July 26 when they went 20-5 but two straight losses to



Carlos Delgado (left), with 42 homers and David Wells (above), beer belly and all, kept the Jays respectable this year.

Boston and a seven-game losing streak (including a three-game sweep by Oakland) derailed that train. Now trailing both the Red Sox and A's, the Jays don't seem to be equipped to fight themselves back into contention.

Don't get me wrong, I'm a Jays fan to the bitter end, but this year the team's dreams of glory will not come to fruition.



## University of Toronto at Mississauga – Athletics

### CENTRE FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION

phone: 828-3714  
fax: 569-9354  
e-mail: ath@credit.erin.utoronto.ca

## Memberships & Services

The All-Inclusive Fitness Pass is new this year for current UTM and U of T students! It entitles students who hold the pass to use the entire athletic facilities including the free weights, Fit Stop, Fitness Centre, Olympic Weightlifting Facility as well as entrance to all Drop-in Fitness Classes.

VALID THROUGH SEPT. 1/99 – APRIL 21/00

All-Inclusive Student Fitness Pass	\$ 50.00
Full Locker	\$ 50.00*
Half Locker	\$ 35.00*
Towel Service Only	\$ 10.00

\*\$10.00 refunded with lock return  
MEMBERSHIPS ON SALE IN THE CENTRE FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION OFFICE, ROOM 1114 AND IN THE FIT STOP

Thanks to all the FROSH & leaders who made *Athletic Frosh* 99 a HUGE success!

*UTM spirit is alive!*

League Commissioners & Tournament Convenors  
**NEEDED**

Apply at the Centre for Physical Education office \$7 per hour wage

## UTM S.T.A.R.T. CLINICS

These clinics are free to all students and are designed to suit all skill levels. We especially encourage new-comers to the sport or activity.

Hi/Lo Fitness	Coed
Teaching Studio	Thu, Sept.16 12-1 pm
Step Fitness	Coed
Teaching Studio	Thu, Sept.16 1-2 pm
Tai Chi Fitness	Coed
Teaching Studio	Wed, Sept.22 12-1 pm

## Ball hockey

continued from page 10

explained that UTM's unique rules and the high cost of professional officials are the main reasons UTM cannot commission them. "What we might do is get the OBHA to run a clinic for our referees based on our rules."

"We're going to be doing evaluations on an ongoing basis," said Krist.

So, if the Centre for Physical Education doesn't like the way players or spectators respond to this year's new and improved men's ball hockey, they may end the league for good.

## WANNA WRITE SPORTS?

Write for *The Medium*

Sports section

Call Adam at 828-5260

He needs help, really.

## Interfaculty Fall League Team Try-outs:

Coed				Men's			
Sport	Location	Dates	Times	Sport	Location	Dates	Times
Ultimate Frisbee	South Field	Sept. 14,15,16	4 - 5 pm	Basketball	Gym	Sept. 21	8 - 9 pm
						Sept. 22	6:30 - 8 pm
						Sept. 23	9 - 10 pm
				Ice Hockey	Clarkson	Sept. 19	10 - 11 pm
					Erin Mills Twin	Sept. 26	10:30-11:30 pm
				Field Soccer	North Field	Sept. 14,15,16	5 - 6 pm
				Rugby	North Field	Sept. 14,15,16	7 - 8 pm
				Touch Football	South Field	Sept. 14,15,16	6 - 7 pm
				Volleyball	Gym	Sept. 21	7 - 8 pm
						Sept. 22	9 - 10 pm
						Sept. 23	6:30 - 8 pm
Field Hockey	North Field	Sept. 14,15,16	7:30-8:30 pm				
Ice Hockey	Erin Mills Twin	Sept. 16	7 - 8 am				
	Huron Park	Sept. 23	7 - 8 am				
Outdoor Soccer	North Field	Sept. 14,15,16	6 - 7 pm				
Touch Football	South Field	Sept. 14,15,16	5 - 6 pm				
Volleyball	Gym	Sept. 21	6 - 7 pm				
		Sept. 22	8 - 9 pm				
		Sept. 23	5 - 6:30 pm				

**COACHES!!** are still needed for teams  
Contact Jack or Louise at the Centre for Physical Education

## Interfaculty Team Tournament Try-outs:

Men's Ball Hockey	Mon. Sept. 20, 5 pm Tue. Sept. 21, 5 pm	<b>Tournament Date</b> Sat. Sept 25 1999	Men's Softball	Mon. Sept. 20, 6:30 pm Tue. Sept. 21, 6:30 pm	<b>Tournament Date</b> Sun. Sept 26 1999
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Try-outs held in the gym.

CSA approved gloves, helmet with facemask and sticks with white plastic blades

Try-outs held at the baseball diamond.

Diamond is located behind parking lot #8. Bring your own glove.





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A R T S

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